

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable• ROUTINE
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DIST 26 DECEMBER 1967

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

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SUBJECT SUMMARY OF VIET CONG ACTIVITIES IN BINH DINH PROVINCE
DURING NOVEMBER 1967

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ACQ

SOURCE

THIS IS A VIETNAM SITUATION REPORT PREPARED

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BY A CAS OFFICER IN BINH DINH PROVINCE

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BASED ON ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO HIM, INCLUDING
VIETNAMESE INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY SERVICE FIELD
OFFICE REPORTS, AND ON PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS.

SUMMARY. THE VIET CONG /VC/ IN BINH DINH PROVINCE MADE EVERY
EFFORT IN NOVEMBER TO STRENGTHEN THEIR WEAKENING POSITION. THIS AIM
WAS REFLECTED IN A PROVINCE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TO HARASS ALLIED
BASES AND TO REDUCE ALLIED MOBILITY. THE VC WERE URGED TO CONSOLIDATE
PRESENT POSITIONS, TO INCREASE BOND SALES AND RICE COLLECTION AND TO
CULTIVATE POPULAR SUPPORT THROUGH PROPAGANDA APPEALS. AFTER AN ATTACK
ON THE HOAI AN DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS AND SUB-SECTOR, THE VC PUBLICIZED

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THEIR VICTORY, STATING THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO INFLICT CASUALTIES, CONFISCATE MONEY AND PROPERTY AND CAPTURE 23 GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM POPULAR FORCE SOLDIERS. TERRORIST ACTS DURING THE MONTH WERE TARGETED AGAINST AMERICAN MILITARY BASES, AS WELL AS AGAINST VIETNAMESE CIVILIANS. A CAPTURED VC DOCUMENT INDICATED A DECREASE OF 30 PERCENT IN GUERRILLA STRENGTH IN HOAI NHON DISTRICT, BOTH IN PERSONNEL AND DEFENSE STRUCTURES, WITH AN ACCOMPANYING MORALE PROBLEM AMONG THE VC CADRES. END SUMMARY.

POLICY

1. A CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENT CONTAINING A HOAI NHON DISTRICT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION INDICATED THE DIRECTION OF THE VIET CONG /VC/ EFFORT THROUGH MARCH 1968. THE VC WERE EXHORTED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO FULFILL THE INSTRUCTIONS SET FORTH BY THE BINH DINH PROVINCE COMMITTEE-- /A/ DEEP ENCROACHMENT ON ALLIED REAR BASES BY GUERRILLA AND SAPPER UNITS, /B/ INTENSIFICATION OF ACTIVITIES AGAINST AIRCRAFT, ARMOR AND SHIPS IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE ALLIED FORCES SUPERIOR MOBILITY, /C/ ENVELOPMENT TACTICS TO FORCE ALLIED UNITS INTO DEFENSIVE POSITIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO A VIETNAMESE SECURITY SERVICE FIELD OFFICE REPORT, VC EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR POSITION IN THE PROVINCE

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INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING-- /A/ CONSOLIDATE OLD INSTALLATIONS, RECRUIT NEW CADRES AND FORM NEW INSTALLATIONS, /B/ INCREASE RESISTANCE BOND SALES, RICE COLLECTIONS AND MATERIEL PROCUREMENT FOR SUPPORT OF FIGHTING UNITS, /C/ INCREASE AIRED PROPAGANDA OPERATIONS TO GAIN POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM /GVN/ RURAL RECONSTRUCTION POLICY, AND /D/ RECRUIT ASSETS IN REFUGEE CAMPS, GVN AND ALLIED MILITARY INSTALLATIONS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR FUTURE ATTACKS.

OPERATIONS

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3. VIETNAMESE SECURITY SERVICE FIELD OFFICE REPORT STATES THAT IN PHU MY DISTRICT THE VC HAVE BEEN RECRUITING FEMALES AND ELDERLY MEN FOR POLITICAL OPERATION SQUADS. IN QUI NHON CITY, AN INTENSIVE EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO PROVIDE UNDERGROUND HIDING PLACES FOR CADRES WHO ARE TO INFILTRATE AND CONTROL OPERATIONS IN THE CITY. A VC MAIL BAG CAPTURED BY ARMY OF VIETNAM MARINES CONTAINED PROPAGANDA LETTERS DIRECTED TOWARD AMERICAN NEGRO SOLDIERS IN VIETNAM. ON 10 NOVEMBER A VC FORCE OF ONE TO TWO COMPANIES ATTACKED HOAI AN DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS AND SUB-SECTOR. IN A MORTAR ATTACK FOLLOWED BY A GROUND ATTACK, THE VC KILLED 21, WOUNDED NINE, CAPTURED WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT, STOLE VN\$270,000 /US\$2,288.13/, TOOK AN OFFICIAL AS

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PRISONER AND CONFISCATED PROPERTY WORTH VN\$200,000 /US\$1,694.92/.
 /DOLLAR EQUIVALENTS GIVEN IN THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON THE OFFICIAL
 EXCHANGE RATE OF VN\$118 TO US\$1.00./ OF THE 27 GVN POPULAR FORCE
 SOLDIERS WHO WERE TAKEN PRISONER, FOUR ESCAPED. THE REST REMAINED VC
 PRISONERS AND A VC RADIO VICTORY BROADCAST ON 11 NOVEMBER INDICATED
 THAT THE PRISONERS WOULD BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL.

4. ON 8 NOVEMBER THREE SATCHEL CHARGES PLANTED BY THE VC
 EXPLODED AT THE U.S. NAVAL COASTAL DIVISION BASE IN QUI NHON
 HARBOR, DESTROYING A LARGE WATER TANK AND A LARGE EMPTY FUEL TANK.
 THE VC DAMAGED A SCHOOL AND CHURCH IN TUY PHUOC DISTRICT WITH
 EXPLOSIVES, CAUSED DAMAGE AND CASUALTIES IN ROAD-MINING AND BRIDGE-
 BLOWING INCIDENTS AND CARRIED OUT A NUMBER OF ASSASSINATIONS.

5. THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER, THE VC CONTINUED THEIR EFFORTS
 TO OBTAIN RICE FROM THE OCTOBER HARVEST. QUOTAS VARIED THROUGHOUT
 THE PROVINCE FROM 50 TO 300 KILOGRAMS OF RICE PER FAMILY. IN ONE
 AREA OF PHU MY DISTRICT, THE PEOPLE WERE ASSESSED VN\$5,000 TO
 VN\$10,000 /US\$42.37 TO US\$84.74/ PER FAMILY IN LIEU OF RICE.

6. DURING AN INCIDENT IN WHICH U.S. NAVAL FORCES KILLED THREE
 VC, FIVE COUNTERFEIT ONE-PIASTRE BILLS WERE FOUND. MILITARY OFFICIALS
 SUSPECT THAT THE VC USE THESE COUNTERFEIT NOTES AS PASSES OR

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RECOGNITION SIGNALS.

PROBLEMS

7. A CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENT STATED THAT GUERRILLA STRENGTH IN HOAI NHON DISTRICT DECREASED BY 30 PERCENT FROM MARCH TO SEPTEMBER 1967 AND THAT THERE WERE VIRTUALLY NO SECRET GUERRILLAS IN GVN LIBERATED AREAS AT PRESENT. MOST FEMALE GUERRILLA FORCES HAVE ALL BUT DISINTEGRATED. MANY DEFENSIVE WORKS, SUCH AS SPIKE PITS AND COMBAT TRENCHES, HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. THE VC FOUND THAT THEIR OWN PEOPLE CONTINUED TO HAVE SUCH SHORTCOMINGS AS RIGHTISM, ESCAPISM, ILLUSION OF PEACE, AND FEAR OF HARDSHIPS AND SACRIFICES. DESERTIONS CONTINUED IN MANY VC UNITS. A DOCUMENT WHICH WAS FOUND ON A VC KILLED IN A SOUTH KOREAN AMBUSH STATED THAT THE E-2-B AND D10 SAPPER COMPANIES HAVE BEEN DECIMATED. THE DOCUMENT APPEALED TO THE VC PROVINCE COMMITTEE FOR PERSONNEL, WEAPONS, SUPPLIES AND MONEY.

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